

Gardens Department.

READ—

The Administration Report of the Government Gardens Department for the year 1924-25, received with letter No. 658, dated the 20th November 1925, from the Superintendent, Government Gardens.

ORDER No. I. C. 3895—A. & E. 166-25-3, DATED 7TH DECEMBER 1925.

Recorded.

2. There was a delay of nearly three months in the submission of this report. Such delays should be avoided in future.

3. Mr. G. H. Krumbiegel was in charge of the Department during the year under report, except for two months and seven days when Mr. H. C. Javaraya officiated as Superintendent of Government Gardens. Orders were issued, during the year under review, revising the establishment of the Gardens Department. The total receipts and expenditure of the Department (excluding the Museum) were Rs. 16,074 and Rs. 1,06,672-14-4, respectively; as against Rs. 15,542 and Rs. 1,24,686 during the previous year.

4. Important additions were made to the collection of economic plants, chiefly by exchanges with important botanical and horticultural institutions. Several plants yielding drugs, oils, fodders, timber and green manure were newly introduced and new economic plants were propagated on a large scale.

5. Scientific work was carried on as usual and numerous plants of horticultural interest were introduced. Shrubs, ornamental trees, palms and avenue trees were propagated and a number of plants out of the recent introductions were acclimatized.

6. Town planning and Architectural work was also done, the total number of designs disposed of during the year being 76.

7. There was a slight increase in the number of visitors to the Nandi Hill Station, there being 581 visitors during the year as against 558 in the previous year. The total expenditure on the Hill Station amounted to Rs. 8,603 and the receipts to Rs. 2,724. Government have since issued orders about the measures to be adopted for improving the Hill Station and for making known its advantages as a health resort; and they trust that in the coming years, there will be an increase in the number of visitors to the Station and an appreciable improvement in its financial results.

8. Government note that the work of the Department during the year was satisfactory.

B. SRINIVASA IYENGAR,

Secretary to Government,

Revenue Department.

FINANCIAL SECRETARIAT.**Report on the working of the Government Savings Banks.**

READ—

Letter No. 85—S. B., dated 9th November 1925, from the Comptroller, submitting the report on the working of Government Savings Banks in 1924-25.

ORDER No. FL. 3203-12—G. F. 102-25-2, DATED 8TH DECEMBER 1925.

The number of accounts—current and dead—increased from 43,081 in 1923-24 to 43,812 in the year under report. The aggregate balance of all the accounts on the 30th June 1925 was Rs. 1,18,63,702 as against Rs. 1,02,57,830 on the 30th June 1924. Government are glad to note these satisfactory features.

2. The number of accounts having balances of and above Rs. 5,000 is reported to have increased from 290 to 401 and the total balance of these accounts from about Rs. 50 lakhs to Rs. 68 lakhs. These accounts include the balances of Railway cesses on which the Savings Bank rate of interest is allowed and the Comptroller is requested to separate them in the future reports so that the calculation of the average balance at the credit of each account may be based on deposits made by the public and exclude special deposits on behalf of funds.

3. It is reported that only thirty applications for nomination were received in the year. The procedure of nomination has obvious advantages and Government hope that depositors will avail themselves of it in larger numbers in the future.

4. The Comptroller again brings to notice the dilatory submission of annual accounts by treasuries. The returns of the Sagar and Mulbagal Taluk Treasuries and of the Hassan District Treasury are stated to have been received long after the due date. The statements from Chintamani, Anekal, Devanhalli and Channuapatna Taluk Treasuries are reported to have been received in an incomplete condition. The Revenue Commissioner is requested to enquire why these delays and defects were permitted by the treasuries and issue the instructions necessary to prevent their recurrence.

M. N. KRISHNA RAO,

Financial Secretary to Government.

PUBLIC WORKS SECRETARIAT.

Meter Hire.

READ—

1. Resolution brought forward at the Birthday Session of the Representative Assembly of 1925, in *re* doing away with the monthly meter hire of 8 annas recovered till now.

2. Letter No. 9128, dated the 31st July 1925, from the Chief Electrical Engineer, reporting that the rate of 8.75 annas per month for electric meter hire was calculated in 1914, that the present rate works up to 8.5 annas per month, that the rate of 8 annas per meter now charged compares favourably with those charged elsewhere.

3. Note No. D. 202, dated the 21st August 1925, by the Secretary, Electrical Department on the subject.

4. Resolution of the Standing Committee for Railways, Electrical and Public Works Departments passed at its meeting held on the 5th September 1925.

ORDER No. E. D. S. 2149-54, DATED 12TH DECEMBER 1925.

Government, after a careful consideration of the case, are pleased to direct that in future no meter hire be charged for installations up to and including 6 points, and that for all installations above 6 points the present rate of meter hire, *viz.*, 8 annas per mensem be continued.

K. R. SESHACHAR,

*Secretary to Government,
Electrical Department.*